

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: County Council

FROM: *mf* Michael Faden, Senior Legislative Attorney

SUBJECT: **Introduction:** Bill 23-08, Commission on Veterans Affairs - Establishment

Bill 23-08, Commission on Veterans Affairs - Establishment, sponsored by the Council President at the request of the County Executive, is scheduled to be introduced on June 10, 2008. A public hearing is tentatively scheduled for July 8 at 1:30 p.m.

Bill 23-08 would establish a Commission on Veterans Affairs and generally provide for the composition and duties of the Commission.

This packet contains

Bill 23-08  
Legislative Request Report  
Memo from County Executive  
Fiscal Impact Statement

Circle

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Expedited Bill No. 23-08  
Concerning: Commission on Veterans  
Affairs - Establishment  
Revised: 6/5/2008 Draft No. 1  
Introduced: June 10, 2008  
Expires: December 10, 2009  
Enacted: \_\_\_\_\_  
Executive: \_\_\_\_\_  
Effective: \_\_\_\_\_  
Ch. \_\_\_\_\_, Laws of Mont. Co. \_\_\_\_\_

## COUNTY COUNCIL FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

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By: Council President at the Request of the County Executive

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**AN ACT** to:

- (1) establish a Commission on Veterans Affairs; and
- (2) generally provide for the composition and duties of the Commission.

By adding

Montgomery County Code  
Chapter 24 – Health and Sanitation  
Article VIII – Commission on Veterans Affairs  
Section 24-61

<b>Boldface</b>	<i>Heading or defined term.</i>
<u>Underlining</u>	<i>Added to existing law by original bill.</i>
[Single boldface brackets]	<i>Deleted from existing law by original bill.</i>
<u>Double underlining</u>	<i>Added by amendment.</i>
[[Double boldface brackets]]	<i>Deleted from existing law or the bill by amendment.</i>
* * *	<i>Existing law unaffected by bill.</i>

*The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland approves the following Act:*

1           Sec 1. Section 24-61 is added as follows:

2                     Article VIII. Commission on Veterans Affairs

3   24-61. [Reserved.] Commission on Veterans Affairs.

4           (a) Definition. In this Section "Commission" means the Commission on  
5           Veterans Affairs.

6           (b) Established. The County Executive must appoint, subject to confirmation  
7           by the Council, a Commission on Veterans Affairs.

8           (c) Composition; Term.

9               (1) The Commission has 11 voting members.

10            (2) The Executive should appoint 6 members that are veterans and  
11            may be a member of a Veterans group, such as

12                       (i) Vietnam Veterans of America;

13                       (ii) American Veterans (AMVETS);

14                       (iii) Disabled American Veterans;

15                       (iv) Veterans of Foreign Wars;

16                       (v) Women Veterans of America; or

17                       (vi) Military Order of the Purple Heart.

18            (3) The Executive must appoint 2 members to represent the general  
19            public.

20            (4) The Executive must designate the following ex officio members:

21                       (A) the Director of the Department of Health and Human  
22                       Services or the Director's designee;

23                       (B) the Director of the Department of Economic Development  
24                       or the Director's designee; and

25                       (C) the County Executive or the Executive's designee.

26            (5) The term of each member is 3 years.

(6) The Executive must designate a chair and vice-chair from among the Committee's members

(d) Duties. The Commission should:

(1) research, assemble, analyze and disseminate information and educational materials relating to activities and programs that will assist in meeting the needs of veterans;

(2) institute and conduct educational and other programs, meetings, and conferences to promote the rights and opportunities for veterans;

(3) advise the Executive and the Council on the status of programs and services in the State and County related to the needs of veterans; and

(4) assist in planning appropriate public acknowledgement of the contributions made by veterans and assist in planning commemoration activities recognizing the contributions made by veterans.

(e) Staff support. The Department of Health and Human Services must provide staff support to the Commission.

## **Sec. 2. Terms for Initial Members.**

Of the members initially appointed to the Commission for Veterans Affairs, the Executive should appoint 3 members to a 1-year term; 4 members to a 2-year term; and 4 members to a 3-year term.

## LEGISLATIVE REQUEST REPORT

### Bill 23-08 - Commission on Veterans' Affairs – Establishment

<b>DESCRIPTION:</b>	This Bill creates a Commission on Veterans' Affairs. The purpose of the Commission is to disseminate information relating to activities and programs that will assist in meeting the needs of veterans; conduct educational and other programs to promote the rights and opportunities for veterans; assist in planning appropriate public acknowledgement of the contributions made by veterans; and advise the Executive and Council on the status of programs and services in the County and State related to the needs of veterans.
<b>PROBLEM:</b>	Veterans have made an important contribution to the community by their service in the Armed Forces of this Nation. Veterans sometimes face unique challenges as a result of that service and are often faced with a need to connect to activities and programs that will assist in meeting those needs.
<b>GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:</b>	The goal of this Bill is to assist veterans in identifying appropriate activities and programs to meet their needs; assist the County in planning appropriate public acknowledgement of the contributions made by veterans; and provide advice to the Executive and Council on the status of programs and services related to the needs of veterans.
<b>COORDINATION:</b>	Department of Health and Human Services.
<b>FISCAL IMPACT:</b>	To be requested.
<b>ECONOMIC IMPACT:</b>	None expected.
<b>EVALUATION:</b>	Subject to the general oversight of the County Executive and County Council.
<b>EXPERIENCE ELSEWHERE:</b>	Prince George's County and Anne Arundel County.
<b>SOURCE OF INFORMATION:</b>	Constantia Latham, Special Assistant to the County Executive. 240-777-2500
<b>APPLICATION WITHIN MUNICIPALITIES:</b>	None.
<b>PENALTIES:</b>	Not applicable.




OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE  
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND 20850

Isiah Leggett  
County Executive

MEMORANDUM

April 14, 2008

TO: Michael J. Knapp, President  
Montgomery County Council

FROM: Isiah Leggett, County Executive 

SUBJECT: Bill to Establish a Commission on Veterans Affairs

I am attaching for the Council's consideration a bill which would establish a Commission on Veterans Affairs to serve the approximately 60,000 veterans who live in the County. I am also attaching a Legislative Request Report for the proposed bill.

This bill would create a Commission to: (1) disseminate information relating to activities and programs that will assist in meeting the needs of veterans; (2) conduct educational programs, meetings, and conferences to promote rights and opportunities for veterans; (3) advise the Executive and Council on the status of programs and services in the State and County relating to the needs of veterans; and (4) assist in planning commemorative activities recognizing the contribution made by veterans.

Thank you for your consideration of this proposed bill.

IL:jgs

Attachments

BILL



2008 APR -9 AM 9:15

NAN  
CC  
SBF  
has- LL  
MF  
BD  
AM

Isiah Leggett  
County Executive

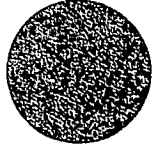
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

Joseph F. Beach  
Director

## MEMORANDUM

April 9, 2008

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TO: Michael J. Knapp, Council President

FROM: Joseph F. Beach, ~~Director~~, Office of Management and Budget

SUBJECT: Council Bill Commission on Veterans Affairs - Establishment

The purpose of this memorandum is to transmit a fiscal impact statement to the Council on the subject legislation.

### LEGISLATION SUMMARY

The bill creates a Commission on Veterans Affairs. The purpose of the Commission is to disseminate information relating to activities and programs that will assist in meeting the needs of veterans; conduct educational and other programs to promote the rights and opportunities for veterans; assist in planning appropriate public acknowledgement of the contributions made by veterans; and advise the Executive and Council on the status of programs and services in the County and State related to the needs of veterans.

### FISCAL SUMMARY

The legislation is not expected to have a fiscal impact on the County. The Department of Health and Human Services notes it will be able to provide staff support as stipulated in Section 24-61-C of the Legislation by means of a part-time Program Manager II in the Office of the Director.

Corinne Stevens at the Department of Health and Human Services and Trudy-Ann Hunter at the Office of Management and Budget contributed to, and concurred with this analysis.

JFB:tah

cc: Kathleen Boucher, Assistant Chief Administrative Officer  
Charles L. Short, Special Assistant to the County Executive  
Uma Ahluwalia, Director, Department of Health and Human Services  
Rebecca Domaruk, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer  
Brady Goldsmith, Office of Management and Budget

Office of the Director